

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 178

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ulf Nilsson and the Cadillac Band upon their induction into the International Rock-a-Billy Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those individuals who, through their musical abilities, inspire Tennesseans and serve as exceptional ambassadors of music; and

WHEREAS, one group of noteworthy individuals is Ulf Nilsson and his band, the Cadillac Band, who are being inducted into the International Rock-a-Billy Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nilsson began playing guitar as a seven-year-old child in the small Swedish village of Ekeby; and

WHEREAS, one of six children, he and his father, a drummer, were the only two musicians in the family; after playing the guitar for a short time, Mr. Nilsson set his mind to becoming a drummer like his father; and

WHEREAS, at the age of eight, Ulf Nilsson began studying the drums, finding this skill more natural for him to learn than the guitar had been; after one year, he was playing the marching snare drum with a local brass band alongside musicians who were at least ten years his senior; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nilsson continued to play with the brass band until he turned fourteen, when he began playing with a local band from South Sweden at evening dances; and

WHEREAS, after about seven years of playing at dances, he joined a bigger band and began performing rock 'n roll; and

WHEREAS, around the age of twenty-six, Ulf Nilsson travelled to the United States and played with a rock 'n roll band in Los Angeles, California, where he befriended musicians, through whose contacts he came to know Ron Wood of the Rolling Stones; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nilsson began assisting Ron Wood with art and music shows in Sweden; and

WHEREAS, he became friends with Elvis Presley's road manager, Joe Esposito, and began appearing on talk shows with Elvis's musicians, including D.J. Fontana, John Wilkinson, James Burton, and Glen Hardin, among others; and

WHEREAS, at this time, Mr. Nilsson assembled his own band, the famous Cadillac Band, with whom he toured Sweden and the United States, performing at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, California, and at Alfred's on Beale Street in Memphis and recording at Sun Studio with James Burton; and

WHEREAS, together, the Cadillac Band has toured with many famed musicians all over the United States and has performed more than 100 shows in Sweden; and

WHEREAS, music is a foundational piece of the heritage of this Great State, and Ulf Nilsson and the Cadillac Band have contributed greatly to the advancement of music in this State, this Nation, and around the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Ulf Nilsson and the Cadillac Band on their induction into the International Rock-a-Billy Hall of Fame, extending our best wishes for their every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.